



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

MIKE D. McDANIEL, Ph.D.
SECRETARY

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Contact: Rodney Mallett
Telephone: 225.219.3964

Car crushing, recycling in progress in New Orleans

BATON ROUGE – The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and DRC, a contractor used to tow abandoned cars and boats, have begun an enormous car-crushing, recycling effort. In the wake of the 2005 hurricanes, DEQ and DRC worked together to tow more than 11,000 cars to a staging area along the Almonaster Corridor in eastern New Orleans.

At this site, the cars are prepped for crushing, where the metal will be auctioned off. Before the cars are crushed, workers remove mercury switches, fluids like gasoline and oil, batteries and Freon.

“When the operation is going full speed, we can run about 200 cars through the remediation process,” said DEQ Administrator and Technical Advisor Bruce Hammatt. “The disposal process should take about six weeks.”

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